

Postdoctoral Scientist – Plant Pathology

Shanhua, Taiwan

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a non-profit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and regional offices in Africa and Asia. WorldVeg conducts research and development programs that contribute to realize the potential of vegetables for healthier lives and more resilient livelihoods. The Center implements its science for development agenda through three outcome-oriented 'flagship programs': Safe and Sustainable Value Chains, Healthy Diets, Vegetable Diversity and Improvement, and one cross-cutting flagship program: Enabling Impact. For more information, please visit our website: worldveg.org

WorldVeg holds the world's largest collection of vegetable germplasm in the public domain. The Center has vegetable breeding programs in Asia and Africa, has strong connections to the seed sector, and is well-placed to develop improved cultivars with traits for tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses, enhanced shelf life, improved nutrient content and quality. The Center is currently modernizing its research infrastructure and is strengthening its collaborations with advanced research institutions and universities.

WorldVeg seeks to employ a Postdoctoral Scientist – Plant Pathology to strengthen its research on developing economical, environmentally safe and sustainable disease management strategies for improving vegetable production. The position will be based at WorldVeg headquarters in Shanhua, Tainan, Taiwan and report to the Lead Specialist - Plant Pathology.

Key job responsibilities:

- Conduct laboratory, greenhouse and field experiments on screening of germplasm and breeding populations for fungal/bacterial disease resistance in solanaceous (tomato, pepper) vegetables;
- Carry out research and development activities in biological control, induced resistance and molecular approaches in fungal/bacterial disease management in tomato and pepper;
- Coordinate multi-location field trials screening for fungal/bacterial disease resistance and integrated disease management in tomato and pepper;
- Co-supervise the research work of undergraduate and graduate students;
- Contribute to capacity building of partners in screening for disease resistance and integrated disease management approaches;
- Publish research in refereed journals and reviewed conference proceedings;
- Collaborate with other researchers within the organization and other advanced research institutes and universities;
- Perform any other duties as required by the needs of the Center and as directed by the supervisor.

The Person:

- A recently completed PhD degree in plant pathology with demonstrated experience in working with vegetable diseases, especially anthracnose (*Colletotrichum* spp.), bacterial wilt (*Ralstonia* spp.) and bacterial leaf spot (*Xanthomonas* spp.);
- Experience in molecular diagnostics and characterization of fungal and bacterial pathogens;
- Highly skilled in the use of statistical and molecular analysis software programs;
- Demonstrated ability to publish in peer-reviewed journals is desired;
- Familiarity with phytosanitary requirements and pest risk assessment will be an advantage;
- She/he must have strong communication skills in spoken and written English. The candidate must be able to work with multidisciplinary teams in a multicultural and multinational environment.

The Reward: This is an Internationally Recruited Staff (IRS) position with competitive pay and benefits. The appointment is for three years. The position is available with immediate effect.

How to Apply: Applicants should submit a letter of application explaining their suitability for and interest in the position along with a *curriculum vitae*, a recent passport size photograph, names and addresses (including telephone/fax/e-mail) of three referees, and date of availability to human.resources@worldveg.org before **15 April 2020**. Please mention the position title in the subject line.